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RACISM, RACIAL DISCRIMINATION, XENOPHOBIA AND ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION

Letter dated 29 August 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

Upon instructions from my Government, I have the honour to bring to your attention decision 1 (59) on Cyprus that the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination adopted at its fifty-ninth session in Geneva on 10 August 2001 (A/56/18, para. 481). In that decision (annexed hereto), the Committee, deeply regretting that the Government of Cyprus continued to be prevented from implementing the Convention on the whole of its national territory due to the foreign occupation of part of that territory reaffirmed the importance of putting an end to the foreign occupation of Cyprus so that all human rights and freedoms would be enjoyed by all Cypriots irrespective of their ethnic origin as envisaged in the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, in particular the rights to freedom of movement and residence, and to own property throughout Cyprus. The Committee requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to call the attention of the Security Council, the General Assembly and other appropriate bodies of the United Nations to that decision, in the earnest hope that they would take the measures required for the implementation of their relevant resolutions and decisions.

I would greatly appreciate it if the present letter along with the full text of the said decision of the Committee were circulated as a document of the Commission on Human Rights under agenda item 6, entitled "Racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and all forms of discrimination".

(Signed) Alexandros VIKIS
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex

Decision 1 (59) on Cyprus

The Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination,

Having considered the fifteenth and sixteenth periodic reports of Cyprus under the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination,

Recalling the concerns expressed in its earlier decisions and concluding observations on Cyprus,

Deeply regretting that the Government of Cyprus continues to be prevented from implementing the Convention on the whole of its national territory owing to the foreign occupation of part of that territory,

1. Reaffirms the importance of putting an end to the foreign occupation of Cyprus so that all human rights and freedoms will be enjoyed by all Cypriots irrespective of their ethnic origin, as envisaged in the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination, in particular the rights to freedom of movement and residence and to own property throughout Cyprus;

2. Requests the United Nations Secretary-General to call the attention of the Security Council, the General Assembly and other appropriate bodies of the United Nations to this decision, in the earnest hope that they will take the measures required for the implementation of their relevant resolutions and decisions.

1483rd meeting
10 August 2001